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DIRECTORATE FOR PLANS

Intelligence Information Cable

[b][1] [b][3] [S]

● PRIORITY [redacted]

[redacted]

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

SECRET [redacted]

DIST 20 AUGUST 1970

COUNTRY: MEXICO [redacted]

SUBJECT: [redacted] MEXICO, SITREP AS OF 1930 HOURS LOCAL TIME, 19 AUGUST 1970

[redacted]

1. [redacted] ON THE MORNING OF 19 AUGUST, THE PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL STAFF STAGED A DRESS REHEARSAL OF THE ARRIVAL OF PRESIDENT NIXON AT THE PUERTO VALLARTA AIRPORT. U.S. AGENCIES WHO WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE ARRIVAL ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THIS REHEARSAL. THE REHEARSAL CONSISTED OF A MRACH-IN AND PLACEMENT OF THE TROOPS FROM THE MILITARY HONOR GUARD, FOLLOWED WITH THE PLAYING OF BOTH NATIONAL ANTHEMS BY THE ARMY BAND STATIONED NEAR TO WHERE THE PRESIDENTIAL PLANE WILL PARK. AFTER THE PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS, A BATTERY OF FIELD GUNS, SITUATED ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE AIRPORT APRON, [redacted]

SECRET

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DATE: MAR 2001

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(classification) (dissem controls)

FIRED THREE PRACTICE ROUNDS IN PREPARATION FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL TWENT.-ONE GUN SALUTE, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE UPON PRESIDENT NIXON'S ACTUAL ARRIVAL. THE U.S. AND MEXICAN OFFICIALS, WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE CEREMONIES ON 20 AUGUST, THEN BRIEFLY WALKED THROUGH THEIR ROLES. (SOURCE: U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS.)

2. THE DRESS REHEARSAL ENCOUNTERED NO DIFFICULT SNARLS; HOWEVER, IT WAS DELAYED FREQUENTLY, AND THERE WAS A CONSIDERABLE QUESTIONING OF PROCEDURES AND REPETITION OF MOVEMENTS. ALTHOUGH PLANS HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN MADE TO STAGE THE ENTIRE MOTORCADE TO THE QUINTA LAURA, THE RESIDNECE WHERE PRESIDENT NIXON WILL STAY, THE REHEARSAL ACTUALLY ENDED AT THE AIRPORT WITH A BRIEFING ON THE ASSIGNMENT OF VEHICLES THAT WILL CONTINUE FROM THE AIRPORT TO QUINTA LAURA. THE MILITARY TROOPS THAT WILL GUARD THE MOTORCADE ROUTE DID, HOWEVER, TAKE UP THE POSITIONS WHICH THEY WILL OCCUPY ON THE OCCASION OF THE ACTUAL MOTORCADE. (SOURCE: U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS.)

3. THE MEXICAN PERSONNEL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS DRESS REHEARSAL WHERE QUITE EFFICIENT, AND THE

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TROOPS PRESENTED A NEAT AND PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE. THEIR MOVEMENTS WERE GOOD, AND DESPITE THE DELAYS, THERE WAS NOT A GREAT DEAL OF CONFUSION. (SOURCE: U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS.)

4. MOST PARTICIPANTS SEEMED TO FEEL THAT THE REHEARSAL HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL ENOUGH TO AUGUR WELL FOR A SMOOTH AND ATTRACTIVE CEREMONY ON THE 20TH. COOPERATION BETWEEN U.S. AND MEXICAN OFFICIALS WAS SMOOTH AND BUSINESS LIKE. (SOURCE: U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS.)

5. THERE WILL BE THIRTY-FIVE UNIFORMED MEN OF THE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD, TRAINED IN RIOT CONTROL AND EQUIPPED WITH TEAR GAS DISPENSERS, ON HAND FOR THE VISIT. IN ADDITION, ALL PLAINCLOTHES OFFICERS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH MACE.

[redacted]

6. LATE AFTERNOON LOCAL TIME 19 AUGUST, A RADIOGRAM WAS RECEIVED AT PUERTO VALLARTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ANNOUNCING A NEW SCHEDULE FOR THE AIRPORT FOR 20 AND 21 AUGUST. ON 20 AUGUST THE AIRPORT WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL

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SECRET [redacted]

(classification) (dissem controls)

COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE TRAFFIC FROM 0900 HOURS LOCAL TIME TO 1230. ON 21 AUGUST THE AIRPORT WILL BE CLOSED FROM 1400 HOURS LOCAL TIME TO 1545. (FIELD COMMENT: IT WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THAT THE AIRPORT WOULD BE CLOSED ON 20 AUGUST FROM 0900 HOURS TO 1800 HOURS AND FROM 0900 TO THE DEPARTURE OF THE PRESIDENTS ON 21 AUGUST. [redacted]

7. [redacted]

[redacted]